

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
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S E C R E T GEORGETOWN 1928

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CU, AO, PFOR, PINS MOPS

SUBJECT: CUBAN CLANDESTINE MILT SUPPORT FOR MPLA IN ANGOLA

REF: A) STATE 266239; B) GEORGETOWN 1901

1. I USED REFTEL A FOR ORAL BRIEFING AFTERNOON NOV 12 OF FONMIN FRED WILLS, AS FOLLOW-ON TO OUR EARLIER CONVERSATION REPORTED IN REFTEL B. WILLS HEARD ME OUT IN SILENCE, HIS EXPRESSION GROWING INCREASINGLY GRAVE AS HE GOT THE FULL IMPACT OF THE NUMBERS OF CUBAN SOLDIERS AND AMOUNT OF MATERIAL AND OTHER SUPPORT WHICH HAD POURED INTO ANGOLA DURING LATTER HALF OF OCTOBER. AT CLOSE WILLS SAID OBVIOUSLY HIS INFORMANTS HAD EITHER NOT HAD THE FULL PICTURE OR THEIR REPORTS WERE OVERTAKEN BY EVENTS IN LATTER HALF OF OCTOBER.

2. WILLS SAID THAT HE COULD ASSURE ME THAT INFORMATION PROVIDED WOULD BE CONVEYED IN CAPSULE FORM TO PRIME MINISTER BURNHAM (IN FACT HE ASKED FOR COPY OF OUR MESSAGE WHICH I SAID UNFORTUNATELY I COULD NOT PROVIDE). HE FURTHER ASSURED ME THAT GOG WOULD NOT TAKE ANY IMMEDIATE STEPS TO RECOGNIZE ANY GOVT IN ANGOLA, AND PARTICULARLY WOULD NOT RECOGNIZE MPLA UNTIL SUCH TIME AS IT MIGHT ACHIEVE FULL EFFECTIVE CONTROL OF COUNTRY AND BE RECOGNIZED BY AN OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF OAU COUNTRIES.

3. WILLS WAS GRATIFIED THAT FNLA AND UNITA SEEMED AT LAST TO BE SUBMERGING THEIR DIFFERENCES IN ORDER TO MEET THE GRAVE THLFAT FROM MPLA. AT THE SAME TIME HE SAID HE WAS DISCOURAGED BY THE DIS-

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UNITY WITHIN OAU WHICH HAD REACHED THE POINT THAT KAUNDA AND

NYERERE WERE SEEKING HIS HELP AS A MEDIATOR OVER THEIR DIFFERENCES ON THE ANGOLA SITUATION. WILLS WAS ALSO AMUSED AT BREAK IN UGANDA-USSR RELATIONS AND SAID THAT WHATEVER ELSE ONE MIGHT SAY ABOUT IDI AMIN, HE WAS HIS OWN MAN.
KREBS

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